

[Sri K. Sattanatha Karayalar] [30th March 1959]

கொள்ள வேண்டுமோ அதை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும்படி இந்த அரசாங்கம் முத்திய அரசாங்கத்திற்கு சிபாரிசு செய்ய வேண்டும். அப்படி சட்டிக்காட்டி ஆலோசனையைச் சொல்ல வேண்டும் என்பதற்காகத்தான் இந்த தீர்மானத்தைக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறேன்.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hopkin and Williams (Travancore) Ltd., Chavara, Kerala, are the Mining Agents to this Government in terms of a Mining Agency Agreement entered into by them with the former Travancore-Cochin Government in respect of the production of ilmenite and by-products such as rutile, sillimanite, zircon and garnet, by mining and dressing of the mineral sands in the Manavalkurichi area in the Kanyakumari district. (After a pause). Nobody seems to be interested. Then, why does the hon. Member want an answer from me?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member who raised the issue is interested.

* THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: They have been producing ilmenite and exporting it. This Government have been getting 75 per cent of the profits towards royalty due to the Government. For a long time now there has been no demand for the Manavalkurichi grade of ilmenite. The Company could not get offers from firms in spite of their best efforts. There is a stock of about 19,000 tons of ilmenite with the Company. The value of the stocks is estimated at about fourteen and a half lakhs of rupees. The Company have no storage facilities for further stocks. There is also no point in continuing production when there is no demand. The Company have therefore decided to close their factory at Manavalkurichi. The factory will be re-opened when the position improves.

I may add that under section 2 (a) (1) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the 'appropriate Government' to deal with labour disputes in this concern is the Central Government as it is a 'mine'. This Government could not therefore set in motion the Industrial Disputes machinery in this case.

VII.—PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT.

(1) THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES.

SRI M. P. SUBRAMANIAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the report on its behalf, present this, the Fourth Report.

(2) THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

SRI K. S. SUBRAMANIA GOUNDER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, the Chairman of the Committee on Estimates, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the report on its behalf, present this, the Sixth Report.